

WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION,  
Washington, DC, August 1, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On behalf of all of our colleagues in the Western Governors' Association, we are writing to express our extreme dismay about the removal over the weekend of a critical provision from the House Energy bill (H.R. 3221)—the revised section 105 of H.R. 2337 relating to the application of categorical exclusions under NEPA for oil and gas exploration and development activities. We expressed our strong support for this section in a separate letter sent in June (enclosed) and we strongly urge you to support Congressman Grijalva's amendment that would reinstate the language when the bill is brought to the House floor.

Section 105 of H.R. 2337 addresses an important concern we have with the indiscriminate use of categorical exclusions under NEPA for exploration or development of oil and gas in wildlife corridors and crucial wildlife habitat on federal lands. We believe that the categorical exclusions authorized broadly under paragraph (b) of EPAAct may often be appropriate. However, we do not want our states to lose the ability to require adequate mitigation in areas we have identified as sensitive wildlife corridors or crucial habitats to be diminished or eliminated. Section 105 addresses our concerns and would allow appropriate environmental site analysis to be completed as necessary to protect these areas.

Accordingly, we applaud Congressman Grijalva for his efforts and we urge all Members of Congress to support his amendment to reinstate the revised section 105 in the bill. Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you on this and other Western issues in the future.

Sincerely,

DAVE FREUDENTHAL,  
Governor of Wyoming,  
Chair, WGA, Co-lead Governor.  
JANET NAPOLITANO,  
Governor of Arizona,  
Co-lead Governor.

#### SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS POTENTIALLY IMPACTED BY WEST-WIDE CORRIDORS

##### ARIZONA

Agua Fria National Monument  
Area 51 Proposed Wilderness  
Belmont Mountains Proposed Wilderness  
Black Canyon/Perry Mesa Proposed Wilderness  
Castle Creek Wilderness Area  
Chiricahua National Monument and Wilderness  
Crossman Peak Proposed Wilderness  
Eagle Tail Mountains Wilderness  
Glenn Canyon National Recreation Area  
Harcuvar Mountains Proposed Wilderness  
Harquahala/Hummingbird Proposed Wilderness  
Havas National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness  
Hell's Gate Wilderness Area  
Hell's Gate/Boulder USFS Roadless  
Humming Bird Springs/Harquahala Wilderness  
Ironwood Forest National Monument  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
Las Cienegas National Conservation Area  
Lime Creek USFS Roadless  
Mojave Wash Proposed Wilderness  
Mount Nut Wilderness  
New Water Mountains Wilderness  
Padre Canyon USFS Roadless  
Pine Mountain/Cedar Bench Wilderness  
Saddle Mountain Proposed Wilderness  
Saguro National Park and Wilderness Area

San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area  
Sand Tank Mountains Proposed Wilderness  
Santa Rita/Whetstone/Middle Dragoon/Chiricahua USFS Roadless  
Sonoran Desert National Monument  
South Maricopa Mountain Wilderness  
Strawberry Crater Wilderness  
Swansea/Buckskin Mountain Proposed Wilderness  
Swansea Wilderness  
Table Top Wilderness  
Talon Tank Mountains Proposed Wilderness  
Vermillion Cliffs NM and Paria-Canyon  
Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness  
West Clear Creek/Fossil Springs/Mazatal Wilderness

##### CALIFORNIA

Adams Peak USFS Roadless  
Beegum/West Beegum USFS Roadless  
Benton Range/Glass Mtn./WSAs 102, 103  
Bigelow Cholla Garden Wilderness  
Bristol Mountain Wilderness  
Buffalo Smoke WSA  
Burnt Lava Flow and Medicine Lake USFS Roadless  
Cady Mountains WSA  
California Desert National Conservation Area  
Castle Craigs Wilderness  
Castle Peak USFS Roadless  
Chanchelulla Wilderness  
Chidago Canyon Proposed Wilderness  
Chinquapin USFS Roadless  
Chuckwalla Mountain Wilderness  
Clipper Mountains Wilderness  
Coyote Southeast and John Muir #9 USFS Roadless  
Crater Mountain  
Damon Butte USFS Roadless  
Dead Mountain Wilderness  
Deep Wells USFS Roadless  
Dobie Flat/Lavas and Captain Jack USFS Roadless

Dog Creek and Backbone USFS Roadless  
El Paso Mountains Wilderness  
Excelsior USFS Roadless  
Golden Trout Wilderness  
Grouse Lakes USFS Roadless  
Headwaters Forest Preserve  
Hollow Hills Wilderness  
Jacumba Wilderness  
Joshua Tree National Park  
Mayfield USFS Roadless  
Mecca Hills Wilderness  
Mojave National Preserve  
Mt. Lassie USFS Roadless  
Newberry Mountains Wilderness  
Orocopia Mountains Wilderness  
Owens Peak Wilderness  
Paiute and Inyo Mountains USFS Roadless  
Piute Mountains Wilderness  
Rodman Mountains Wilderness  
Sacatar Trail Wilderness  
Salt Gulch/Chanchelulla USFS Roadless  
Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
Slate Creek USFS Roadless  
Soda Mountain Proposed Wilderness  
Soda Mountains WSA  
South Fork and South Fork Trinity USFS Roadless  
South Sierra USFS Roadless  
South Sierra Wilderness  
Trilobite Wilderness  
Tule Mountain WSA  
Volcanic Tableland Proposed Wilderness  
Wonoga Peak and John Muir #12 USFS Roadless  
WSAs 116 and 123  
WSAs 99-101

##### COLORADO

Bushy Creek/Morrison Creek USFS Roadless  
Canyon Creek/263 Rare 2 USFS Roadless  
Craters of the Moon National Monument

Cross Mountain WSA and proposed additions  
Curecanti National Recreation Area  
Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area  
Kelly Creek/Byers Peak/James Peak USFS Roadless  
Pinyon Ridge Proposed Wilderness  
Sarvis Creek Wilderness  
Skull Creek/Red Cloud Peak/Willow Creek/Bull Canyon WSAs and Proposed Additions  
South Shale Ridge/Cow Ridge/Little Bookcliffs Proposed Wilderness  
Storm Peak USFS Roadless  
Vasquez Peak and Byers Peak Wilderness  
Weber-Menefee Mountain WSA and proposed additions  
West Elk Addition Proposed Wilderness

##### IDAHO

Black Canyon WSA  
California Trail  
Continental Divide Trail  
Craters of the Moon National Monument  
Garfield Mountain USFS Roadless  
Hagerman Fossil Bends National Monument  
Italian Peaks/McKenzie Canyon/Sourdough Mountain/Four Eyes Canyon/Garfield Mountain USFS Roadless  
King Hill Creek WSA  
Mead Peak/Dry Ridge/Huckleberry USFS Roadless  
Minidoka Interment National Monument  
Oregon Trail  
Shoshone/Lava WSAs  
Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area

##### MONTANA

Beaverhead-Deerlodge USFS Roadless  
Black Sage WSA  
Bridger/Crazy Mountain USFS Roadless  
Continental Divide Trail  
Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site  
Henneberry Ridge, Bell/Limkilns Canyon, Hidden Pasture Creek WSAs  
Humbug Spire WSA  
Lazyman Gulch/Electric Peak/Whitetail/Haystack USFS Roadless  
Lewis and Clark Trail  
Skitwish Ridge/Graham Coal/Evans Gulch/Mt. Bushnell/Cherry Peak/Patricks Knob  
North Cutoff/South Siegle  
Sleeping Giant/Sheep Creek WSAs  
Wales Creek and Hoodoo Mountain WSAs

##### NEVADA

Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area and Wilderness Area  
Blue Eagle/Riordan's Well WSAs  
California Trail  
Desert National Wildlife Refuge  
Gabbs Valley Range WSA  
Goshute Canyon WSA  
Mount Limbo/Fox Range/Poodle Mountain WSAs  
Old Spanish Trail  
Pony Express Trail  
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area  
Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area  
South Pequop WSA

##### NEW MEXICO

Aden Lava Flor/West Potrillo Mountains WSAs  
Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness  
Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge  
Bosque del Apache Wilderness  
Cabezon/La Lena WSAs  
Chupadera Proposed Wilderness Addition  
Continental Divide Trail  
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro  
Florida Mountains WSA and Proposed Additions  
Greater Potrillo Proposed Wilderness Additions  
Ojito Wilderness